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Newsgroups: sci.space

Subject: more on Discovery "alien spacecraft"

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The Quarterly Report (1st Quarter 1989) of the Fund for UFO Research includes this item:

"In mid-March, the Executive Committee was informed that a Baltimore resident had recorded a very provocative statement made during a 'ham' radio rebroadcast of the communications between the space shuttle Discovery and Houston ground control. The statement as recorded was as follows: 'Uh, Houston, this is Discovery. We still have that alien spacecraft under (observance?).' To this there was no response from Houston. (The last word is a bit ambiguous, but the other words -- including 'alien spacecraft' are completely clear.) Subsequent investigations showed that the hams were rebroadcasting 'raw' communications from the spacecraft, rather than communications which had been passed first through Houston control. The so-called 'NASA select' audio channel, which was transmitted by Houston to the Press and other interested news

media, *does not include this statement*.

This audio tape initiated a search for confirmation that it had, in fact, come from the spacecraft [Discovery, of course, :-)] and was not some bizarre hoax by a ham radio operator who transmitted on the same frequency as the Goddard ham station (WA3NAN). The Fund immediately arranged for a voice analysis to determine if the transmission was authentic and if so, which astronaut made the statement. At this writing, the analysis was inconclusive."

If anyone on the net can add any substantive information to help us get to the bottom of this probable hoax, please email or post to the net. (CSICOPers and fanatic skeptics: please don't waste net bandwidth with more gratuitous UFO ridicule, which only confirms your ignorance of the UFO literature.)

Thanks in advance for any substantive responses.

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